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HOUSE BILL 970

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

GAIL C. BEAM

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; PROVIDING FOR FAMILY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMS IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS; CREATING THE COUNCIL ON FAMILY INVOLVEMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE. -- This act may be cited as the "Family Involvement Act". "

Section 2. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. --

A. The legislature finds that the involvement and support of families in the education of their children is an integral part of improving academic achievement and that

Underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 properly constructed family involvement programs can play an
2 important and effective role in the participation of families in
3 their children's schools and in improving children's learning.

4 B. The purpose of the Family Involvement Act is to
5 ensure that family involvement programs are properly designed
6 and implemented and to provide a focus and structure for these
7 programs based on prior experience and research while
8 maintaining sufficient local flexibility to design a program
9 that best meets the needs of the local community. The goals of
10 these programs are to:

11 (1) engage families from diverse cultures
12 positively in their children's education by:

13 (a) building effective and consistent
14 methods of home-school communications;

15 (b) supporting families in developing
16 skills that enhance their children's academic efforts and their
17 development as responsible members of society; and

18 (c) helping professionals learn to work
19 comfortably with diverse families and to view these families as
20 valuable sources of information about their children;

21 (2) inform families that they can directly
22 affect the success of their children's learning, offer families
23 various techniques and strategies to improve their children's
24 academic success or assist their children in learning at home,
25 if they desire; and

1 (3) integrate family involvement programs,
2 including compliance with the provisions of the Family
3 Involvement Act, into a school's master plan for academic
4 accountability. "

5 Section 3. A new section of the Public School Code is
6 enacted to read:

7 "[NEW MATERIAL] FAMILY INVOLVEMENT COUNCIL. --

8 A. The "family involvement council" is created as an
9 advisory council to the department of education.

10 B. The council shall consist of nine members
11 appointed by the state superintendent for staggered three-year
12 terms as follows:

13 (1) one representative of a statewide parent-
14 teacher organization;

15 (2) two parents or guardians of pupils enrolled
16 in a public school;

17 (3) two public school teachers;

18 (4) one public school administrator;

19 (5) one local school board member;

20 (6) one representative of the business
21 community; and

22 (7) one department of education employee, who
23 shall be the chairman of the council.

24 C. The council shall:

25 (1) develop an instrument or process to

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1 evaluate family involvement programs developed by local school
2 boards;

3 (2) make recommendations to the department of
4 education about family involvement programs that are effective;

5 (3) make recommendations to the department
6 about training programs for local school boards and school
7 staff;

8 (4) make recommendations to the department
9 about facilitating coordination among school officials, parents
10 and families, educators and community leaders; and

11 (5) make recommendations to the department
12 about the coordination of department services and services of
13 other state agencies.

14 D. Members of the council who are not state
15 employees may receive per diem and travel expenses pursuant to
16 the Per Diem and Mileage Act. "

17 Section 4. A new section of the Public School Code is
18 enacted to read:

19 " NEW MATERIAL FAMILY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM --

20 A. Each local school board shall, in conjunction
21 with parents, teachers, administrators and community leaders,
22 establish a family involvement program for each school in the
23 school district. The local school board shall:

24 (1) ensure that parents and families
25 participate in the planning, design, implementation and

- 1 evaluation of the family involvement program; and
- 2 (2) provide for regular and periodic programs
- 3 throughout the school year that offer learning opportunities for
- 4 both families and school personnel in areas such as:
- 5 (a) the ability of families to directly
- 6 affect the success of a child's learning through the support
- 7 given at home and at school;
- 8 (b) home activities, strategies and
- 9 materials that can be used to assist and enhance the learning of
- 10 children at home and at school;
- 11 (c) the developmental needs of children,
- 12 positive guidance techniques and ways for parents and teachers
- 13 to build healthy relationships with children; and
- 14 (d) the ability of families and schools
- 15 to develop consistent and effective communications concerning
- 16 the progress of the children in school and concerning school
- 17 programs;
- 18 (3) prepare an annual statement identifying
- 19 specific objectives of the program; and
- 20 (4) conduct an annual review and assessment of
- 21 the program's progress in meeting its objectives, which shall be
- 22 made available to parents.
- 23 B. A family involvement program may include the
- 24 following:
- 25 (1) a plan to encourage participation by

1 families from diverse cultures;

2 (2) a program that builds on parenting
3 strengths, helps families develop skills they desire and
4 facilitates networks to support families in effectively
5 nurturing their children;

6 (3) a communication element that provides
7 effective two-way communication practices to reach families,
8 both individually and collectively, to ensure that families and
9 school staff communicate back and forth about their children;

10 (4) a home learning element that provides for
11 families and staff to work together in developing learning goals
12 and offers opportunities for learning activities at home and in
13 the community;

14 (5) a volunteer element that recruits and
15 organizes volunteer participation from families and the
16 community at large;

17 (6) a governance and advocacy element that
18 provides a democratic governance structure that ensures that
19 parents are partners in policy making about school programs and
20 that family representatives are elected to act as advocates or
21 decision makers for other parents and families; and

22 (7) a community outreach element that
23 establishes partnerships with individuals and organizations in
24 the community.

25 (8) a plan to encourage parents to visit

1 schools, which may include an area in each school designated as
2 a family center. "

3 Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. --The effective date of the
4 provisions of this act is July 1, 1997.

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 7, 1997

Mr. Speaker:

Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 970

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS, amended as follows:

1. On page 1, line 13, after "INVOLVEMENT" insert
"; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION".

2. On page 4, line 15, after "receive" insert "no
compensation except".

3. On page 7, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following
new section:

"Section 5. APPROPRIATION.--Five thousand dollars
(\$5,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the state
department of public education for expenditure in fiscal year 1998

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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for expenses of the family involvement council. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1998 shall revert to the general fund."

4. Renumber the succeeding section accordingly.,

and thence referred to the APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel F. Vigil, Chairman

Adopted _____

Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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The roll call vote was 11 For 0 Against

Yes: 11

Excused: Mallory, Weeks

Absent: None

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Underscored material = new
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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 12, 1997

Mr. Speaker:

Your APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 970, as amended

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS, amended as follows:

1. Strike House Education Committee Amendments 1, 3 and 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Max Coll, Chairman

FORTY- THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

HB-970/aa

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 14 For 0 Against

Yes: 14

Excused: Bird, Pearce, Watchman

Absent: None

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[bracketed material] = delete

FORTY- THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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FORTY- THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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March 18, 1997

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Mr. President:

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Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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HOUSE BILL 970, as amended

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has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS, amended as follows:

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1. On page 2, line 14, strike "home-school" and insert
"school-home".

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2. On page 3, line 17, strike "two" and insert "one".
3. On page 3, strike line 18 and renumber the succeeding
paragraphs accordingly.

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Respectfully submitted,

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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Cynthia Nava, Chairman

Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____
(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 6 For 1 Against

Yes: 6

No: Boitano

Excused: Duran, Garcia, Maloof

Absent: None

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